



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LANSING



REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES  
DIRECTOR

SUBMITTED: April 14, 2008

MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR

Information: Natural Resources Commission

Subject: Renaming of the Gaylord to Cheboygan to Mackinaw City Improved Rail corridor as the North Central State Trail.

Authority

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended.

Discussion and Background

On September 10, 1998, the inactive railroad corridor between Gaylord and Cheboygan was approved for acquisition and dedicated for public use as the Gaylord to Cheboygan Trail.

On June 6, 1996, the inactive railroad corridor between Mackinaw City and Hawks was approved for acquisition and dedicated for public use as the Mackinaw to Hawks Michigan Trailway.

On July 11, 2003, the inactive railroad corridor between Alpena and Hawks was approved for acquisition and named the Alpena to Mackinaw Trail, with the intent that the name would cover the trail from Alpena to Mackinaw City and that the Mackinaw to Hawks Michigan Trailway name would be retired.

In 2007, the corridor from Gaylord to Cheboygan to Mackinaw City received \$2.2 million dollar surface improvements over the 62 mile multi-purpose recreation trail. Shortly after the improvements, the Department of Natural Resources was contacted by the Top of Michigan Trails Council (TOMTC), representing a number of the local communities located along the trail route, requesting the entire route be identified by one name. The Department requested that the TOMTC assist with the development of a list of names to be considered.

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Recommendations:

That the formerly acquired and named Gaylord to Cheboygan Trail, and the portion of the Mackinaw to Hawks Michigan Trailway from Cheboygan to Mackinaw City be renamed and known as the North Central State Trail.

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